

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SANTIA 05266 232255Z

64

ACTION VOE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 PER-05 /017 W

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R 232130Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0389

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 5266

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: CVIS APER CI

SUBJ: NIV WORKLOAD AND STAFFING PROBLEM

1. SANTIAGO HAS EXPERIENCED RECENT UPSURGE IN NONIMMIGRANT VISA ACTIVITY WHICH HAS SEVERELY STRAINED PERSONNEL RESOURCES OF CONSULAR SECTION. AUGUST NIV WORKLOAD WAS 10 PERCENT OVER AVERAGE OF LAST FOUR YEARS AND THAT OF FIRST ELEVEN WORKDAYS OF SEPTEMBER HAS BEEN 55 PERCENT HIGHER THAN SIMILAR FOUR-YEAR AVERAGE.

2. THIS HAS RESULTED IN LONG LINES EXTENDING OUT ONTO STREET BEGINNING AT SIX-THIRTY IN MORNING, NECESSITY TO GIVE OUT NUMBERS AND DELAY SOME APPLICATIONS UNTIL NEXT DAY, AND ATTENDANT PROBLEMS OF PUBLIC RELATIONS. WE HAVE BEEN FORCED TO USE FOR CONSULAR WORK SERVICES OF OFFICERS FROM POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SECTIONS. THIS IS ONLY A TEMPORARY EXPEDIENT AND MORE PERMANENT ARRANGEMENT WILL HAVE TO BE MADE IF INCREASED VISA DEMAND CONTINUES. CONSULAR SECTION HAS CONSISTED OF FOUR OFFICERS SINCE APRIL 1974, WHEREAS AT LEAST FIVE OFFICERS WERE ON BOARD DURING LAST FOUR SEPTEMBERS.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF DEPARTMENT

COULD INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING VICE CONSUL NANCY K. HUDSON, WHO WE UNDERSTAND IS IN WASHINGTON, COME TO SANTIAGO NOW RATHER THAN IN JANUARY 1975, AS CURRENTLY SCHEDULED. PLEASE ADVISE.
POPPER

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NNN

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